

# The NTSB Mission: Enhancing Transportation Safety

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### Federal Agencies: Transportation

NTSB

**FMCSA** 

FRA

NHTSA

PHMSA

DOT

FTA

**MARAD** 

**FHWA** 

FAA





- 1) determining the probable cause of transportation accidents
  - 2) making recommendations to prevent their recurrence



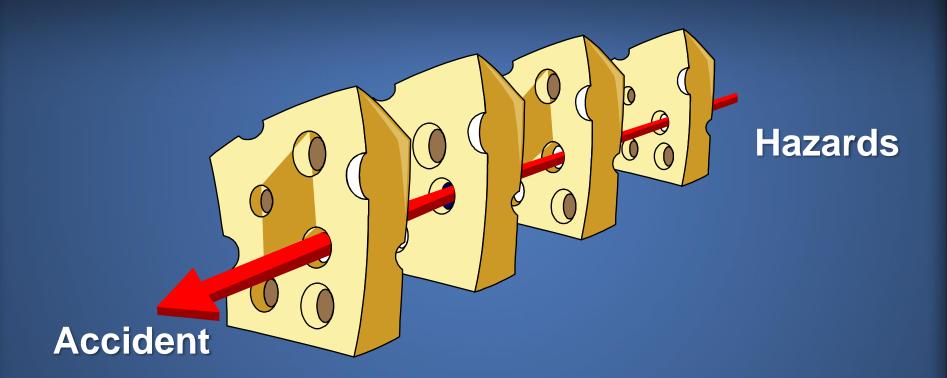


### Independent Federal Agency: Created in 1967

- >140,500 accident investigations
- 14,000+ safety recommendations
- ~ 2,300 organizations/recipients
- 82% acceptance rate



### "Swiss Cheese" Model (Reason)



Successive layers of defenses, barriers, and safeguards



### NTSB Go Team: 24/7/365

- Individual investigator
- Regional/limited team
- Major launch/Board Member



### Key On-scene Events



### **Organizational Meeting**

- Designate parties and party coordinators
- Establish and organize groups

### **Progress Meetings**

- Summarize findings
- Info for briefings



Family Briefings

> Press Briefings



### NTSB Investigative Process



On-scene Investigation

Organizational
Meeting
Groups and
Parties

Progress meetings
Media Briefings
Press Releases



Preliminary Report

Factual information



Public Hearing

Fact finding
Depositions
Witnesses
Docket



Board Meeting

Docket

Findings Conclusions

Probable Cause

Safety Recommendations In-Flight Separation of Vertical Stabiliz American Airlines Flight 587 Airbus Industrie A300-605R, N14053 Belle Harbor, New York November 12, 2001



Final Report

Government in the Sunshine Act



Descent Below Visual Glidepath and Impact With Seawall
Asiana Airlines Flight 214
Boeing 777-200ER, HL7742
San Francisco, California
July 6, 2013



**Accident Report** 

NTSB/AAR-14/01 PB2014-105984

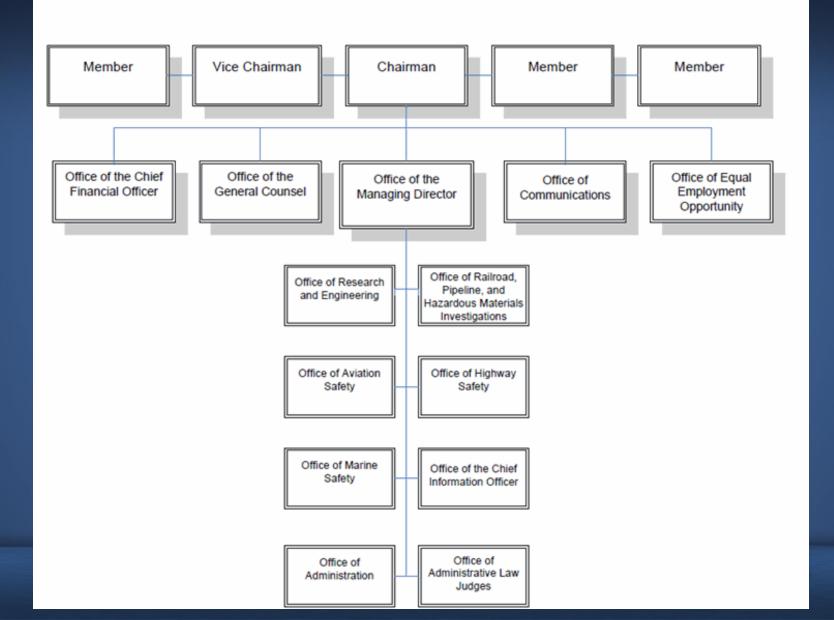


### Final Accident Report

- Factual Information
- Analysis
- Conclusions
  - Findings
  - Probable Cause
- Recommendations



### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD



### NTSB: The Board

- Five Members:
  - President nominates
  - Senate confirms



Earl Weener Member



Robert Sumwalt Member



Chris Hart Acting Chairman



Mark Rosekind Member



### Honorable John K. Lauber:

No Accident ≠
Safe Operation



### Challenges of a 24/7 Society



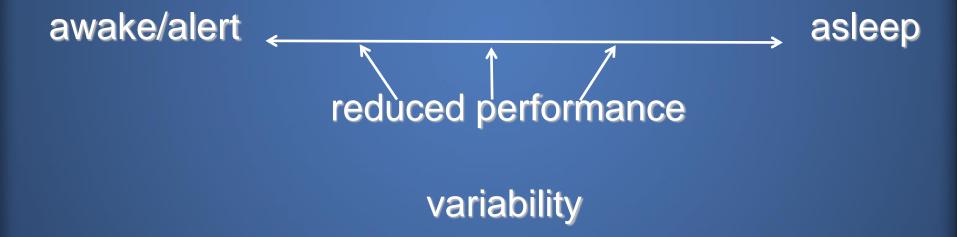


### Four Fatigue Factors +

- Sleep loss
- Continuous hours of wakefulness
- Circadian/time of day
- Sleep disorders
- Other considerations



## Fatigue Risks





# Fatigue Risks

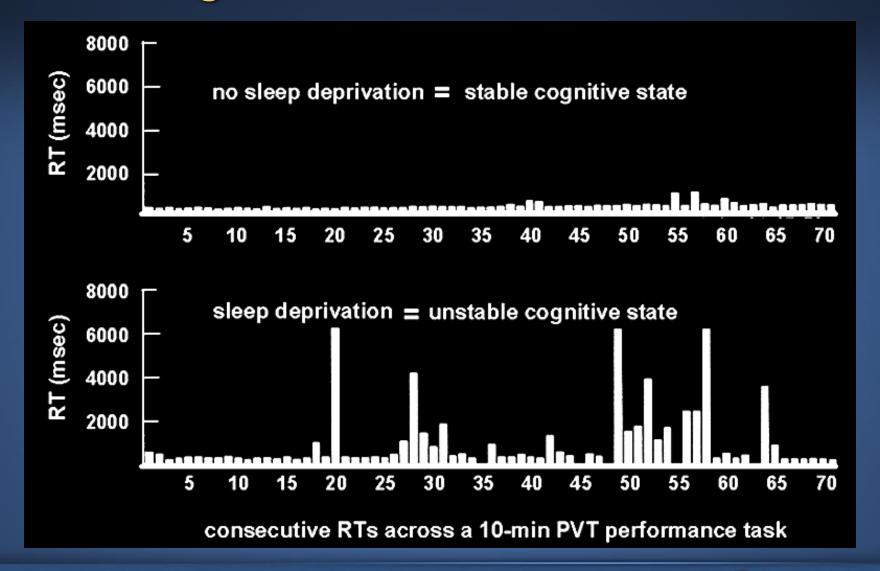
- degraded 20 50%+:
  - reaction time
  - memory
  - communication
  - situational awareness
- increased:
  - irritability
  - apathy

- judgment
- attention
- mood

- attentional lapses
- microsleeps



### Fatigue and Reaction Times





### Alertness Reports Often Inaccurate





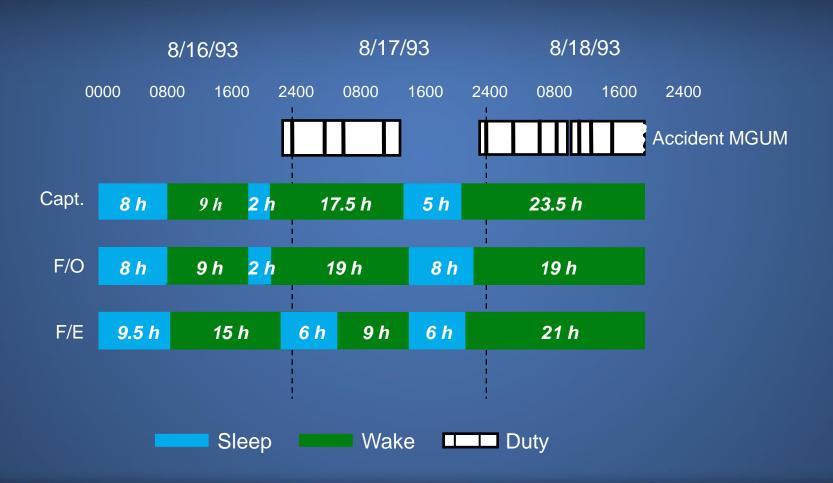
# Uncontrolled In-Flight Collision with Terrain AIA Flight 808, Douglas DC-8-61, N814CK U.S. NAS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, August 18, 1993

First NTSB aviation accident investigation to cite fatigue as probable cause





### Crew Sleep History





### **Observed Performance Effects**

- Degraded decision-making
- Visual/cognitive fixation
- Poor communication/coordination

Slowed reaction time







Uncontrolled In-Flight Collision with Terrain AIA Flight 808, Douglas DC-8-61, N814CK U.S. NAS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, August 18, 1993

"The National Transportation Safety Board determines that the probable causes of this accident were the impaired judgment, decision making, and flying abilities of the captain and flight crew due to the effects of fatigue..."



### Miami, Oklahoma (June 26, 2009) Fatigue Factors

- Off work for 3 weeks: day active/night sleep schedule
- 3am to 3pm shift work/drive schedule (since 1997)
- Early bedtime (2 hr phase advance in sleep time)
- Obtained min 3 hrs/max 5 hrs sleep prior to accident
- Subsequently diagnosed with mild sleep apnea





### Probable Cause (fatigue)

". . . driver's fatigue, caused by the combined effects of acute sleep loss, circadian disruption associated with his shift work schedule, and mild sleep apnea, which resulted in the driver's failure to react to slowing and stopped traffic ahead by applying the brakes or performing any evasive maneuver to avoid colliding with the traffic queue. . . ."





#### Animation of Accident Reconstruction

Motorcoach Run Off Road-Collision with Bridge Signpost

Interstate Highway 95 Southbound New York, New York March 12, 2011

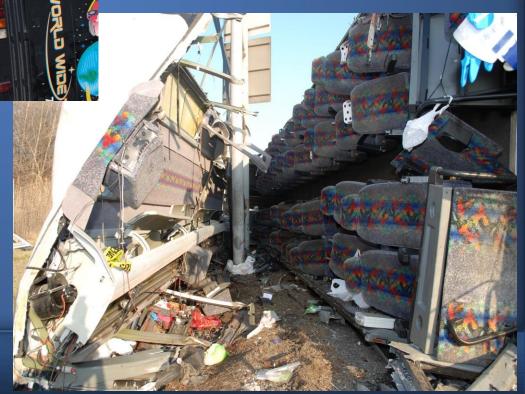
HWWYHIWHIDDE



### 'Bronx Bus', New York, NY (March 12, 2011)



15 fatalities17 injuries



### **Probable Cause**

"The National Transportation Safety Board determines that the probable cause of the accident was the motorcoach driver's failure to control the motorcoach due to fatigue resulting from failure to obtain adequate sleep, poor sleep quality, and the time of day at which the accident occurred."



### Asiana 214 (July 6, 2013) San Francisco, CA (SFO)



### **Probable Cause**

Contributing to the accident were . . .

(5) flight crew fatigue, which likely degraded their performance.



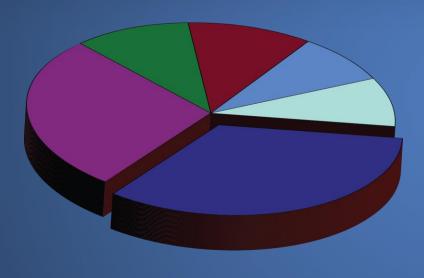
### NTSB Recommendations

MOST WANTED 1990 - 2011

>200 fatigue recommendations



### Complex Issue:



### **Requires Multiple Solutions**

- Scheduling Policies and Practices
- Education/Awareness
- Organizational Strategies
- Healthy Sleep
- Vehicle and Environmental Strategies
- Research and Evaluation



### Manage Fatigue = Enhance Safety

- Culture change
- Get educated
- Acknowledge risk
- Take action!



# Good sleep, safe travels.





# National Transportation Safety Board